

## State of North Carolina Office of the Governor

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(Editor's Note: The state House of Representatives' Transportation Committee today unanimously approved H.B. 48, Gov. Mike Easley's North Carolina Moving Ahead! initiative to direct \$700 million over the next two years for highway maintenance and modernization and public transportation.)

## GOV. EASLEY'S STATEMENT REGARDING NORTH CAROLINA MOVING AHEAD! PASSING HOUSE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

"Today's action by the House Transportation Committee is a major step forward for North Carolina's transportation system. *North Carolina Moving Ahead!* is a critical investment in our economy and our infrastructure that will generate new jobs across the state. It will also bring a new level of safety and mobility by attacking the state's vital transportation needs – maintenance, modernization and public transit."

State Transportation Secretary Lyndo Tippett added that passage of *N.C. Moving Ahead!* is critical to maintaining the state's investment in its transportation network.

Tippett stated that, "*N.C. Moving Ahead!* modernizes the 1989 Highway Trust Fund by providing funds to resurface rough roads, widen narrow lanes and shoulders, improve congestion and replace deficient bridges. It also will upgrade our public transportation system by supporting regional rail, replacing outdated bus equipment and improving bicycle and pedestrian facilities."

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